

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. As I heard the compilation from the distinguished Senator from New Hampshire, it was a pretty small percentage of the bill, and I was going through the math in my head. If it was a \$60 billion bill, with a \$150 million appropriation that would have supported the disaster for the fishermen, I think that is 0.25 percent of the total of the bill—one-quarter of 1 percent. Yet somebody over on the House side had to target that and take it out and leave the fishermen high and dry while the rest all went through?

I think it is really important that we as a group stand for the fishermen and try to force some recognition in this body that the disaster they are facing is a real one.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Yes.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. It is not just the people who are fishing directly who are affected by this, it is also all of the other jobs that depend on that fishing industry that are going to be lost.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. The engine repair people, the net repair people, the folks who process the fish that are caught, the folks who sell fuel to the fishermen, the people who do maintenance on the boats—there is an entire economic ecosystem that is knocked down when the fishermen can't bring the catch home. Yes, the Senator is absolutely correct.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. And in my small State of New Hampshire, where we only have 18 miles of coastline, we have 5,000 jobs dependent on this industry. So in Rhode Island and Alaska, I am sure my colleagues have a significant number of jobs dependent on the fishing industry. What happens to those jobs if the industry doesn't survive? They are gone.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I think Alaska may actually have more coastline than Rhode Island.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I think we have 33,000 miles of coastline, not to be bragging on a coastline. But what is so important as part of this discussion—and my colleague Senator SHAHEEN has stated this—our fishermen often are not included when we think about areas of disaster. Yet, in terms of those industries, those parts of our economy that are making things happen as folks are kind of chugging along, it is our fisheries that for decades—and for centuries, as Senator WHITEHOUSE noted—have been producing good jobs and providing a source of sustenance for our families.

Alaska is in somewhat of a unique situation in that we still have so many families who rely on their fisheries for subsistence. This is not just an income source for many. For so many in rural Alaska, this means whether or not you are going to be able to eat this winter. The situation on the Yukon and on the Kuskokwim—when those rivers were shut down to fishing, we had actions of

civil disobedience, where individuals just came to the river and said: We have to put our nets in because we have to be able to feed our families. Down in the Cook Inlet region, it is not so much a subsistence lifestyle there but a commercial fishery as well as sport fishing. So sport guides who are required to be off the river cannot take that tourist who has come to Alaska for their dream fishing trip. They have to cancel that and lose their revenue, and so guides can no longer stay in place.

So Senator SHAHEEN is correct about the ripple effect to the economy. It affects all of our fishing communities and those who support them. So when we talk about disasters in areas and \$150 million that was to be split between all of these different regions and States, it is a recognition that it is quite slight in comparison to the true loss to our economies, the true loss to our families who have suffered.

Again, I appreciate the commitment we have from so many who have been impacted that we don't give up on this. We have gone through the process, we have jumped the hurdles to get the designation that is required by our government through the Secretary of Commerce. We have done that. Now the step is for Congress to provide that funding that makes the difference. It is one thing to get a disaster declaration on paper; it is another to be able to provide the relief. And I certainly intend to push until that relief is provided not only for the families in Alaska but for those who have been impacted by fisheries disasters throughout the country.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. And I will certainly join my colleague in that effort.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I thank my colleague.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

DATA PRIVACY DAY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, I join privacy advocates, industry leaders and National, State and local government officials from across our Nation in celebrating Data Privacy Day—a day to recognize the need to better secure our privacy and security in cyberspace. I am also pleased to join Senators on both sides of the aisle in cosponsoring a Senate resolution to commemorate Data Privacy Day.

In the Digital Age, Americans face new threats to their digital privacy and security as consumers and businesses alike collect, share and store more and more information in cyberspace. Data Privacy Day is an important reminder about the need to improve data privacy as we reap the many benefits of new technologies.

Last year the Judiciary Committee approved digital privacy legislation that I authored to update the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, ECPA, to improve the privacy protections for Americans' email and other

electronic communications. That bill would, among other things, require that the Government obtain a search warrant, based upon probable cause, before obtaining email and other electronic communications from a third-party service provider. When I and others in Congress authored ECPA in 1986, email was a novelty and most Americans had never heard of the Internet. Today, communication by email is commonplace and many of us store email and other electronic communications with service providers or "in the cloud" for extended periods of time.

After 3 decades, it is essential that Congress update ECPA to ensure that this critical law keeps pace with new technologies and the way Americans use and store email today. Digital privacy is important to all Americans, regardless of party affiliation or ideology. That is why when Congress first enacted ECPA, we did so with strong bipartisan support. I appreciate the willingness of House Judiciary Committee Chairman GOODLATTE to work in partnership with me to examine and update this critical privacy law. I look forward to working closely with Chairman GOODLATTE and others in Congress to update this law so that it keeps pace with the many new threats to our privacy.

I again thank and commend the many stakeholders and leaders from across the Nation who are holding events to commemorate Data Privacy Day. I look forward to working with them and with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, in both Chambers, to enact reforms to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE CHARLES ROMANI, JR.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to acknowledge recently retired Illinois Judge Charles Romani, Jr., who served on the bench for 30 years in Illinois' third circuit. Among many achievements over those years of service, Judge Romani's work setting up a veterans' court stands out.

Veterans' issues have always been close to Judge Romani's heart. Having served in the U.S. Army himself, as a sergeant during the Vietnam War, Judge Romani knows firsthand the difficulties that veterans face when returning home from war.

Judge Romani was born and raised in Greenville, IL. He attended Western Illinois University, before continuing on to law school at St. Louis University. Upon graduation, Romani accepted a position as Assistant State's Attorney for Madison County. Two years later, in 1974, he ran for State's Attorney in Bond County. He was elected and served with great distinction for 7 years.

Romani first became an associate judge of the Third Judicial Circuit in 1983. Five years later, he became a circuit court judge. And, in 1989, Judge Romani became Chief Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit in Illinois.

In 2009, a growing number of veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan began appearing on court dockets around the country. Many of these veterans have special needs, including mental health needs, and many of them greatly benefit from specialized services. It was then that Judge Romani began modeling an innovative, new veteran's court based on a successful model in Buffalo.

Since 2009, the court that Judge Romani created has helped innumerable veterans turn their lives around. The Court consistently sees between 30 and 40 veterans go through its program at a time. There are now approximately 104 veteran's courts, like Judge Romani's, around the country helping those who served the United States in its time of need.

Judge Romani identifies this court as his "most rewarding achievement as a judge."

Judge Romani's last day on the court was November 5, when he completed an impressive career that spanned 39 years. He has been married to his lovely wife Karen for 38 years. They have three children, two of whom were recently married.

I add my voice to many others when I say thank you, Judge Romani, for your years of distinguished public service and the indelible mark you have left on Madison County.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I regret having missed the January 24, 2013, vote on S. Res. 15, a resolution to improve procedures for the consideration of legislation and nominations in the Senate. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of S. Res. 15.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY J. GOLDBERG

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, Senator HATCH and I would like to recognize the outstanding career of Mr. Larry J. Goldberg, Principal Deputy Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS. Mr. Goldberg retired on January 3, after more than 35 years of distinguished government service.

Mr. Goldberg began his career of government service in 1976 as Associate Legal Director for the National Center for Law and Deafness at Gallaudet College. He continued his work defending civil rights for persons with disabilities as a trial attorney in the Justice Department and later as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Maryland's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In 1989, Mr. Goldberg joined HHS in the Inspector General Division of the Office of General Counsel. He transferred to the HHS Office of Inspector General, OIG, at the inception of its independent Office of Counsel in 1996, and has risen through the ranks to Principal Deputy Inspector General, managing a staff of more than 1,700 auditors, criminal investigators,

analysts, and attorneys, and a budget of more than \$300 million.

Throughout his career, Mr. Goldberg has demonstrated the essence of what it means to serve and protect the public. Most notably, he has accomplished systemic and institutional reforms that have enhanced HHS programs by strengthening protections against fraud, waste, and abuse and promoting efficient and effective program operations. His visionary leadership and perseverance in driving change has resulted in billions of dollars of erroneously paid and misused funds being returned to the critical programs that serve our most needy. Mr. Goldberg's career achievements also include establishing landmark legal rights for people with disabilities in employment, education, health care, and social services. His many contributions have had a far-reaching and lasting impact.

During his 23 years with OIG, Mr. Goldberg's efforts and skill in fostering collaboration within OIG and with government partners have positioned OIG to meet vastly expanded responsibilities and to achieve results in priority areas. The depth and range of his professional knowledge and expertise are appreciated and respected throughout HHS, by the larger OIG community, by Congress, and by the health care industry. His dynamic leadership has had a direct and measurable effect on OIG's ability to align its resources, work plans and products, compliance initiatives, and investigative and enforcement activities to carry out its mission.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I join with Senator BAUCUS in commending Mr. Goldberg for his service. As Principal Deputy Inspector General, and throughout his career with OIG, Mr. Goldberg's efforts have directly benefited the American people by protecting Federal health care, public health, and social programs from waste, fraud, and abuse, and recommending to HHS actions to improve program effectiveness. Mr. Goldberg has led OIG to achieve unprecedented results in combating health care fraud and abuse. He has marshaled OIG's resources to counter this epidemic through a sophisticated, multifaceted, and innovative strategy.

For example, Mr. Goldberg has spearheaded OIG's efforts to join with the Justice Department to establish Medicare Fraud "Strike Force" operations—elite teams of investigators and prosecutors, supported by advanced data analysis—in 9 key locations. These Strike Forces have charged more than 1,400 defendants, who collectively have billed Medicare for more than \$4 billion. Simultaneously, OIG has pursued more traditional civil, administrative, and criminal cases. Under Mr. Goldberg's leadership, OIG has generated record-breaking returns for the Medicare Trust Fund and taxpayers—including court-ordered recoveries, fines, restitution, and settlements totaling more than \$6 billion in 2012.

But not all of his results can be measured in dollars. During Mr. Goldberg's tenure, OIG produced a landmark measurement of adverse events from hospital stays; reported and testified on overutilization of antipsychotic drugs for nursing home patients; and recommended actions to protect the safety of the Nation's food supply. Mr. Goldberg has also championed fraud prevention by taking the message directly to the health care industry. He has built coalitions with industry to promote a culture of compliance and transparent practices to safeguard Federal health care programs, and he pioneered a series of guidances that set the standards for how to meet Federal health care program requirements.

We wish Mr. Goldberg the very best in his retirement and thank him for his exemplary record of service to the government and the American people in protecting Federal programs from fraud, waste, and abuse and in promoting the health, well-being, and civil rights of all Americans.

REMEMBERING CAROL WALTER

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to remember Carol Walter. Carol was known throughout Connecticut and the Nation as a force for good and a supporter of the homeless. I worked with her for many years to address the homeless population in Connecticut, and no one advocated more relentlessly and tirelessly for this cause.

An ambassador for social justice, she took positions at various nonprofits, including homeless shelters throughout the State as well as at the Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition. In 2006, she was named executive director of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness.

At the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness, Carol introduced a new way of approaching homelessness. Carol regarded this unacceptable human condition as something that could be prevented and addressed it on a national scale through community organizing, advocacy, research, leadership, and education. She empowered the greater community, building grassroots leadership, advocating for new research and policies, and leading these efforts with grace and resolve. According to her colleagues at the Coalition, Carol truly listened to the voices of people who experience homelessness.

She did not stop at the prevention and cessation of homelessness, but rather took the next step towards long-term sustainability. Carol dedicated most of her career to efforts to include securing permanent affordable housing and housing subsidies for the afflicted, providing support systems in the community, and offering career services to support independence and self-help. She worked to prevent and eliminate homelessness on local, State, and Federal levels. She partnered with local communities and Statewide organizations, such as Supportive Housing